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1. AGENCY USE ONLY (Leave blank)		2. REPORT DATE 17 Dec 1992		3. REPORT TYPE AND DATES COVERED interim, 1 July - 1 Dec '92	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE Aspects of the Chemistry of Vinylarsenic Compounds. The Preparations of Divinylarsinic Acid, Tetravinylldiarsine Oxide, and Tetravinylldiarsine, and the X-ray Crystal Structure of the Helical Divinylarsinic Acid				5. FUNDING NUMBERS G: N00014-92-J-1828 R&T PR: 44135035---01	
6. AUTHOR(S) Virgil L. Goedken, Lawrence F. Brough and William S. Rees, Jr.					
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Department of Chemistry and Materials Research and Technology Center The Florida State University Tallahassee, Florida 32306-3006				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER TR No. 1	
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Department of the Navy Office of the Chief of Naval Research Arlington, Virginia 22217-500				10. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY REPORT NUMBER Unknown	
11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES To be published in: <i>Journal of Organometallic Chemistry</i>					
12a. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT This document has been approved for public release and sale; its distribution is unlimited.				12b. DISTRIBUTION CODE	
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14. SUBJECT TERMS organoarsenic chemistry, arsenic acids, diarsines, diarsine oxides				15. NUMBER OF PAGES 30	
				16. PRICE CODE	
17. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF REPORT UNCLASSIFIED	18. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE UNCLASSIFIED	19. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF ABSTRACT UNCLASSIFIED	20. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT UL		

OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH

GRANT N00014-92-J-1820

R&T Code 4135035---01

Technical Report No. 1

Aspects of the Chemistry of Vinylarsenic Compounds. The Preparations of Divinylarsinic Acid,
Tetravinylarsine Oxide, Tetravinylarsine, and the X-ray Crystal Structure of the Helical
Divinylarsinic Acid

by

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Prepared for Publication
in the

Journal of Organometallic Chemistry

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Materials Research and Technology Center
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17 December 1992

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93-00308



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SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION IN

JOURNAL OF ORGANOMETALLIC CHEMISTRY

DATE RECEIVED: 3 August 1992.

manuscript number: JOM 23390.

→ Revised Version ←

Accepted 10 Nov. '92

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Abstract

Tetravinylarsine (1) was prepared by coupling divinylarsenic(III) bromide (3) with lithium dispersion in diethyl ether. Tetravinylarsine oxide (2) and divinylarsinic acid (3) were obtained as primary and secondary by-products, respectively. Compound 3 crystallizes in the monoclinic space group $P2_1/n$, with $a = 7.714(6) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 7.293(8) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 10.799(8) \text{ \AA}$, $\beta = 92.27(3)^\circ$, $\rho_c = 1.77 \text{ g/cm}^3$ for $Z = 4$. Least squares refinement, based on 429 observed reflections, led to a final R of 0.057. The molecules are linked by hydrogen bonds to form an extended, linear, helical chain along the twofold screw axis. The O--H--O distance is $2.53(1) \text{ \AA}$, indicative of strong hydrogen bonding. The As-O bond distances are significantly different with $\text{As-O}(1) = 1.721(6) \text{ \AA}$ and $\text{As=O}(2) = 1.617(6) \text{ \AA}$. The $\text{As-O}(1)\cdots\text{O}'(2)$ and $\text{As=O}(2)\cdots\text{O}'(1)$ intermolecular bond angles are $111.5(4)^\circ$ and $128.7(4)^\circ$, respectively. Dihedral angles between planes containing the vinyl carbons and the As=O bond are -5.2° and 12.2° , which strongly suggests the presence of conjugative interaction. Spectroscopic data are reported for compounds 1 and 2. Compound 3 was characterized by melting point and ^1H and ^{13}C NMR, IR and UV spectroscopic techniques.

ASPECTS OF THE CHEMISTRY OF VINYLARSENIC COMPOUNDS. THE PREPARATIONS OF DIVINYLARSINIC ACID, TETRAVINYLDIARSINE OXIDE, AND TETRAVINYLDIARSINE, AND THE X-RAY CRYSTAL STRUCTURE OF THE HELICAL DIVINYLARSINIC ACID.

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Introduction

Among the compound semiconductors, GaAs is perhaps one of the most widely studied. Its direct bandgap makes it a good candidate for laser applications, while a range of (Al,Ga)As compositions find use in an array of high-speed electronic devices. One popular method for the production of epitaxial thin films of GaAs is organometallic vapor phase epitaxy (OMVPE) [2]. In the common manifestation of the OMVPE synthesis, AsH₃ is the primary source of the group 15 element for the final material. The combination of the high vapor pressure and high toxicity of this congener of ammonia has led researchers to explore a variety of alternate routes to produce *high quality* GaAs. Significant success in this area has been achieved by the total replacement of As-H bonds in the "single-source" precursors of the general form [R₂MER'₂]_n (M = Al, Ga, In; E = P, As, Sb, Bi; R = Me, Et; R' = *i*Pr, *t*Bu; n = 2, 3) [3]. The most successful alternative to date, however, is *t*BuAsH₂. This primary arsine, a liquid at ambient conditions, is both easier to contain and less toxic than gaseous AsH₃. Most importantly, carbon incorporation into thin films of GaAs grown by OMVPE from this precursor is minimal, when compared with results from other alkyl arsines [4]. Another potential source of elemental arsenic, the tetraalkyldiarsines, is indicated both in results from seventy years ago [5], and in a just published study [6] (Eq. 1). Accordingly, we

recently initiated an investigation into the feasibility of utilizing this class of compounds as relatively less toxic precursors to the arsenic necessary for GaAs growth.



The simplest tetraalkyldiarsine, $(\text{H}_3\text{C})_2\text{As-As}(\text{CH}_3)_2$, given the trivial name of cacodyl, was discovered in 1760 by Cadet. It is claimed as the first report of a compound containing a metal-carbon bond [7]. Cacodyl oxide also was produced in the same reaction and characterized by Bunsen at a later date. Although a fair amount of research has been conducted over the ensuing years on cacodyl and other diarsines, scant attention has been paid to molecules having unsaturated hydrocarbon substituents with the exception of phenyl derivatives [8]. The prevailing wisdom in OMVPE has been that the presence of any sp^2 or sp carbon in the precursors will lead to incorporation of carbon in the final thin film [2]. Such incorporation is not only disadvantageous, it often totally destroys the desired electronic properties of the film. Conversely, there are reports which indicate that this notion may not always be correct [9]. Specifically, in the instance where one desires to impart photosensitivity to a class of molecules, the inclusion of π -bonding substituents may be of great advantage. As a result of these requirements, we set about the synthesis of tetravinyldiarsine. Along the route we characterized tetravinyldiarsine oxide and divinylarsinic acid. Several noteworthy features were observed in the solid state structure of the acid, as determined by single crystal x-ray diffraction. We now report on these results and related studies of vinylarsenic compounds.

X-ray crystal structure analyses have been published for a variety of carboxylic [10] and phosphinic [11-21] acids but, to date, the structures of only three arsinic acids [22-24] have been determined fully. Two general structural types are known for this class of molecules, both of which are characterized by intermolecular hydrogen bonding. In the first type, pairs of molecules form a dimer containing two hydrogen bonds which, in turn, are part of an eight membered ring (Figure 1). In the second type, each molecule forms hydrogen bonds to two different neighboring molecules. As a result, an extended, linear chain of atoms is formed.

Carboxylic acids generally form dimers, with the notable exception of those acids where the alkyl group is small [10]. For example, both formic and acetic acids exist in the solid state as planar chains. On the other hand, most phosphinic acids have a helical chain structure, perhaps, at least in part, due to the larger size of the phosphorus atom when compared with carbon. Sterically hindered di(*t*-butyl)phosphinic acid [19, 20] and di(*t*-pentyl)phosphinic acid [21], however, crystallize in the dimeric structure.

It is surprising then that a x-ray diffraction crystal structure analysis of dimethylarsinic acid [22] has shown that it exists as a dimer. Di(*n*-butyl)arsinic acid (4) [23] also forms a dimer and cell constant data [25] strongly suggest that at least the diethyl, di(*n*-propyl) and C₅ through C₈ analogs also exist as dimers in the solid state. In fact, it is likely that all straight chain saturated hydrocarbon arsinic acids, C₁ through C₂₀, form dimers, although a phase transition, thought to be due to reorientation of the alkyl chains and corresponding changes in intra-chain van der Waals contacts, has been observed just prior to the melting point for C₆ and longer side chain acids [26]. In contrast, diphenylarsinic acid (5) uniquely has been determined to adopt the helical chain structure [24]. In this paper, we report the crystal structure of divinylarsinic acid, (3). The steric and electronic properties of the vinyl group make this molecule a good candidate for comparison of its solid state structure with the known structures of the rather limited class of other arsinic acids.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Molecules of 3 form a linear helix in the solid state bound together by hydrogen bonds between each molecule and two neighboring molecules. A representation of the crystallographic unit cell is depicted in **Figure 2**. Relevant crystal and data collection parameters are given in **Table 1**. Positional parameters are supplied in **Table 2** and selected interatomic distances and angles are given in **Table 3**. The atoms bound to arsenic form a slightly distorted tetrahedron. The average C-As-O(1) angle, 104.6(6)°, is

somewhat less than the ideal tetrahedral angle, while the average C-As=O(2) angle, $112.3(6)^\circ$, is slightly greater (ORTEP representation given in **Figure 3**). Similar bond angles are observed in **5**, where the corresponding average angles are $104.0(1)^\circ$ and $111.7(1)^\circ$, respectively. The C-As-C and O-As-O angles are, within experimental error, as expected from the atomic geometry (**Table 3**). A somewhat larger O-As-O angle, $114.8(1)^\circ$, was found in the more sterically demanding **5**.

The average As-C bond distance observed for **3**, $1.90(1) \text{ \AA}$, is within experimental error of the range of values found in other arsinic acids, $1.89 - 1.96(2) \text{ \AA}$ [22-24]. The As-O bond distances [27], As-O(1) = $1.721(6) \text{ \AA}$ and As-O(2) = $1.617(6) \text{ \AA}$, are significantly different, indicating an asymmetric position for the proton involved in hydrogen bonding. The longer As-O bond distance is not significantly different from related distances in **4** and **5**; however, the shorter As-O distance, although only slightly decreased from the analogous bond length in **5**, $1.639(2) \text{ \AA}$, is significantly shorter than the related bond length found in the dimeric **4**, $1.67(1) \text{ \AA}$.

Additional insight into the differences present between **3** and **4** comes from comparison of their IR data. For **4** only one arsenic-oxygen stretching vibration was reported in the infrared spectrum, at 890 cm^{-1} [28]. These workers interpreted this to be the value expected for an average bond order of 1.5. For **3**, in addition to the likely vinyl C-H stretch at 980 and 970 cm^{-1} , we observe strong IR absorptions at 880 , 847 , and 750 cm^{-1} . The 750 cm^{-1} band corresponds well with the 776 cm^{-1} calculated for a "pure" As-O single bond [29]. The 880 cm^{-1} absorption could either be As=O or C=C; however, the 847 cm^{-1} vibration is most likely As=O. Frequencies of 837 and 878 cm^{-1} are recorded for AsO⁻³ [30].

The distance between the hydrogen-bonded oxygen atoms in **3**, $2.53(1) \text{ \AA}$, indicates strong hydrogen bonding. This distance and the As-O-O angles, with As-O(1)-O'(2) = $111.5(4)^\circ$ and As-O(2)-O'(1) = $128.7(4)^\circ$, are closely related to the analogous values found in **5**, $2.52(2) \text{ \AA}$, $112.7(1)^\circ$ and $120.6(1)^\circ$ [31]. A residual electron density of approximately 0.5 e/\AA^3 , labeled H(7), was located in an asymmetric, and off-line, position between the hydrogen-bonded oxygen atoms in **3**, with O(1)-H(7) = 0.91 \AA , O(2)-H(7) = 1.81 \AA and O(1)-H(7)-O'(2) = 133° . The second most important intermolecular interaction within the

helical chains may be the dipole-dipole attraction present between the relatively electropositive As and O'(2) in one of the two neighboring molecules. The relevant As---O'(2) distance is 3.540(6) Å, just larger than the sum of the van der Waals radii, 3.4 Å.

An interesting feature of this structure follows from the dihedral angles (Table 4) formed between the vinyl planes defined by two doubly bonded carbon atoms and the arsenic atom, and the plane defined by O(2), As and one of the C atoms bonded to As. The values are 12.2° and -5.2°. The fact that both angles are close to zero strongly suggests that conjugation exists between the C=C and As=O multiple bonds. This is in contrast to the corresponding angles in 5, which we calculate (using the positional parameters found in the original paper) to be 29.0° and -16.5°. A comparison of conjugation in known phosphinic and arsinic acid structures is worthwhile. It has been reported that the influence of phenyl groups on the acid dissociation constant of diphenylphosphinic acid is not additive [32], and it was suggested that this was due to steric interaction between the rings which limits conjugation. On the other hand, the effect of vinyl groups in divinylphosphinic acid was found to be additive. Finally, in 3, both vinyl planes are rotated about their As-C bonds so as to bring the hydrogen atoms bound to C(1) and C(2) slightly closer to O(1) and away from one another. This effect is greatest for the vinyl group on the same side of the arsenic atom as the hydrogen bond.

The mass spectra of 1 and 2 each contain a base peak corresponding to AsC_2H_2 . Both give parent ions; 1 at 258 and 2 at 274 m/e. The second highest mass fragment observed in each spectrum is assigned to the parent with loss of three vinyl groups (1: 177; 2: 193). The most interesting feature present in the data for 1 is the observation of a fairly intense signal (approximately 20% of the base peak) at m/e = 150, corresponding to As_2 . All compounds gave unexceptional ABX type ^1H NMR spectra (Table 5) which were well resolved with the exception of 3, where some minor second order effects were observed.

SUMMARY

The reaction of divinyldarsenic(III) bromide (6) with lithium dispersion in diethyl ether produces tetravinyldiarsine (1), tetravinyldiarsine oxide (2) and divinyldarsinic acid (3). Compound 3 crystallizes in a helical chain comparable to that observed for the diphenyldarsinic acid analog (5). There is evidence for a conjugative interaction of the two vinyl groups with the As=O in compound 3; such interactions appear to be limited for 5. Additional explorations of the organometallic chemistry of 1 and its potential for utilization in materials science are planned and will be reported on in the future.

EXPERIMENTAL

GENERAL COMMENTS:

^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were obtained at 300 and 75.54 MHz respectively on a Varian Gemini 300 spectrometer. 1 and 2 were dissolved in CDCl_3 and referenced to the residual ^1H and ^{13}C resonances at 7.24 and 77.0 ppm. Compound 3 is sparingly soluble in D_2O , which was used to reference the ^1H spectra at 4.63 ppm. A small amount of methanol was added to the D_2O to serve as a reference for the ^{13}C spectra at 49.3 ppm. Mass spectra were obtained using a Hewlett Packard Series II, 5890 gas chromatograph equipped with a 5971 mass selective detector containing an electron impact source operating at 70 eV. Infrared data were collected on a Perkin Elmer 983 spectrometer using powdered 3 spread on KBr plates. The UV spectrum for 3 was obtained down to 200 nm on a Cary 14 spectrometer with D_2O as the solvent. The melting point for 3 was obtained in a sealed capillary under nitrogen and is uncorrected. Diethyl ether and propane were dried under nitrogen over lithium aluminum hydride. Chloroform- d_3 was stored over molecular sieves.

PREPARATION OF 1, 2, and 3: Divinyldarsinic acid (3) was prepared incidentally as a by-product during the synthesis of tetravinyldiarsine (1). An oven dried flask was charged with 160 mg (6.9 mmole, 40%

excess) of 30% lithium dispersion. After washing with diethyl ether to remove the mineral oil, 4 ml of diethyl ether was added, the mixture was brought to reflux and 1.04 g (5.0 mmole) of divinylarsenic(III) bromide, **6**, [33,34] was added over a period of 1 h under nitrogen. Reflux was continued for an additional 24 h. The product mixture, consisting of **1**:**2**:**6** in a ratio of 7:2:1 by ^1H NMR, then was evaporated to dryness and pentane was added. Filtration was carried out under nitrogen, and the mixture was stored under a rubber septum wrapped with Parafilm but no other precautions were taken to exclude oxygen or moisture. Two weeks later crystals were observed growing from the bottom of the flask. Over time, both cube-shaped and needle-like crystals of **3**, each with the same lattice parameters, were produced having a melting point of 91-92°C. The crystals were separated by anaerobic filtration. Kugelrohr distillation of the filtrate at 0.2 mm Hg gave pure **1** at 24°C. The undistilled fraction consisted predominately of **2**. Subsequently, pure **1** has been prepared by this route without the incidental formation of **2** and **3**.

Preparation of 1: Tetravinylidiarsine (**1**) was prepared by a slight modification of the route given above. The reaction flask was rinsed with trimethylchlorosilane, oven dried and charged with 950 mg (34.2 mmole, 10% excess) of 25% lithium dispersion in a nitrogen filled glovebox. The flask was equipped with a water cooled reflux condenser and a rubber septum, removed from the glovebox, and the dispersion was rinsed free of mineral oil with several portions of diethyl ether. 10 ml of diethyl ether then was added, followed by 6.5 g (31.1 mmole) of **6** dissolved in diethyl ether over a period of 40 min. The rate of addition sufficed to keep the reaction at reflux without external heating. Following addition, the reaction flask was placed in a 40°C oil bath. After 2 h., 5 ml of diethyl ether was added at which point it was noticed that a small amount of reflective powder, probably elemental arsenic, was present. Reflux was continued for another 3 h. The reaction mixture then was evaporated to dryness, treated with pentane, and filtered under nitrogen. Following removal of the pentane, **1** distilled at ambient temperature and 0.2 mm Hg as a colorless liquid.

Spectroscopic data: ^1H NMR data are given in Table 5 for compounds **1-3** and **6** [35].

^{13}C NMR: Compound 1 (CDCl_3): 128.3 ($^1J_{\text{CH}} = 158.7$, t), 136.7 ($^1J_{\text{CH}} = 161.1$, d). Compound 3 (D_2O , methanol internal reference): 129.1, 137.5 (lack of solubility inhibits assignment of peaks).

IR: Compound 1 (neat): 3140 (vs), 3040 (m), 2970 (s), 2920 (m), 2220 (vw), 1940 (vw), 1850 (br, w), 1570 (m), 1370 (s), 1250 (m), 1230 (m), 995 (sh, m), 970 (s), 925 (s), 800 (vw), 735 (w), 585 (m), 525 (s). Compound 3 (neat): 1400 (m), 1380 (m), 1245 (m), 1010 (m), 980 (m), 970 (s), 880 (s), 847 (m), 750 (s), 615 (m), 580 (m).

UV/Vis: Compound 1 (hexane): End absorption with a peak at 281 nm, $\epsilon = 8,500$. Compound 3 (D_2O): End absorption tailing to approximately 260 nm.

Mass spec.: Compound 1: 258 (15% base, M^+), 177 ($\text{As}_2\text{C}_2\text{H}_3$), 151 (As_2H), 150 (As_2), 129 (AsC_4H_6), 128 (AsC_4H_5), 127 (AsC_4H_4), 101 (base, AsC_2H_2). Compound 2: 274 (8% base, M^+) 193 ($\text{As}_2\text{OC}_2\text{H}_3$), 177 ($\text{As}_2\text{C}_2\text{H}_3$), 167 (As_2OH), 151 (As_2H), 129 (AsC_4H_6), 127 (AsC_4H_4), 101 (base, AsC_2H_2).

CRYSTALLOGRAPHY OF 3: A colorless, cube shaped crystal measuring approximately $0.3 \times 0.3 \times 0.3 \text{ mm}^3$ was placed in a glass capillary. The intensity data were measured on a CAD4 Enraf Nonius Diffractometer (Mo K_α radiation, monochromated, $\theta - 2\theta$ scans). No absorption correction was done ($\mu = 54.8$) in view of the uniformity and size of the crystal. A total of 560 reflections were measured for $2\theta \leq 50$, of which 429 were considered to be observed [$I \geq 3\sigma(I)$]. The structure was solved by Patterson and difference Fourier techniques and refined by full-matrix least squares methods [36]. In the final refinement, anisotropic thermal parameters were used for nonhydrogen atoms. Hydrogen atom parameters were calculated assuming idealized geometry. Hydrogen atom contributions were included in the structure calculations, but their parameters were not refined. The final discrepancy indices were $R = 0.057$ and $R_w = 0.065$. The final difference Fourier map was essentially featureless with the largest peak, $0.7 \text{ e}^-/\text{\AA}^3$, near the As atom.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We acknowledge support of this project by the Office of Naval Research Chemistry Division. L.F.B. was the recipient of a Florida State University Summer Faculty Professional Enhancement Program stipend during the summer of 1990.

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL: A listing of atomic anisotropic thermal parameters (1 p.) and observed and calculated structure factors (2 p.) is available. Complete ordering information can be found on any current masthead page.

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27. See reference 24 for an extended comparison of As=O and As-OH bond lengths in structures of organoarsenic acids.
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29. We assume that the values calculated for the As-O and As=O vibrations in reference 28, 964 and 776 cm^{-1} respectively, inadvertently were transposed. The force constants given for the As-O bond, 8.7×10^5 , and for the As=O bond, 4.6×10^5 , appear to be the origin of the transposition.
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35. Attempts to secure a satisfactory elemental analysis for 1 proved difficult. Samples sealed in ampoules in an inert atmosphere box were submitted for analysis and the results were observed to be dependent upon the length of time elapsed from sealing to analysis. Calcd. for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{12}\text{As}_2$: (37.24%C, 4.69%H). Found (1 day lapsed time): (34.88%C, 4.25%H). Found (3 days lapsed time): (31.38%C, 4.30%H).
36. All computations were performed on a PDP 11/34 computer with the aid of the Structure Determination crystallographic program library obtained with the purchase of the x-ray equipment.

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Table 1**Crystal and refinement data for divinylarsinic acid (3).**

Formula	AsC ₄ H ₇ O ₂
Molecular weight	162.02
Color of crystal	colorless
Crystal size (mm)	0.30x0.30x0.30
Diffractometer	CAD-4
Radiation	Mo K α
Scan Speed (deg/min)	1.0
Abs. coeff. (cm ⁻¹)	54.8
Scan technique	θ -2 θ
2 θ scan range (deg)	2-50
Scan width (deg)	1.8
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P2 ₁ /n
a (Å)	7.714(6)
b (Å)	7.293(8)
c (Å)	10.799(8)
β (deg)	92.27(3)
V (Å ³)	607.1
Z	4
ρ (calcd.) (g/cm ³)	1.77
ρ (found) (g/cm ³)	1.75
Data collected	560
Unique data with $I \geq 3\sigma(I)$	429
Weighing factor	1/ σ (F ²)
Standard reflections	3
LS parameters	82
R (F)	0.057
R _w (F)	0.065

Table 2**Atomic coordinate for divinylarsinic acid (3)**

Atoms	x	y	z
As	0.1252(2)	0.3269(2)	0.6568(1)
C1	-0.073(2)	0.187(2)	0.6195(14)
C2	0.287(2)	0.314(2)	0.5269(12)
C3	-0.123(2)	0.055(2)	0.6915(13)
C4	0.434(2)	0.239(2)	0.5441(14)
O1	0.050(1)	0.549(1)	0.6544(8)
O2	0.209(1)	0.274(1)	0.7917(8)
H1	-0.2245(0)	-0.0133(0)	0.6699(0)
H2	-0.0580(0)	0.0282(0)	0.7658(0)
H3	-0.1399(0)	0.2121(0)	0.5455(0)
H4	0.5122(0)	0.2334(0)	0.4785(0)
H5	0.4656(0)	0.1872(0)	0.6226(0)
H6	0.2566(0)	0.2647(0)	0.4481(0)

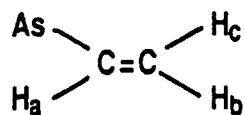
Table 3**Selected interatomic distances and angles in divinylarsinic acid (3)**

Atoms	Distance (Å)	Atoms	Angle (deg)
As-C(1)	1.87(1)	C(1)-As-C(2)	111.5(5)
As-C(2)	1.92(1)	C(1)-As-O(1)	104.0(4)
As-O(1)	1.721(6)	C(1)-As-O(2)	111.0(4)
As-O(2)	1.617(6)	C(2)-As-O(1)	105.3(4)
C(1)-C(3)	1.30(2)	C(2)-As-O(2)	113.5(4)
C(2)-C(4)	1.26(2)	O(1)-As-O(2)	111.0(3)
O(1)-O(2')	2.53(1)	As-C(1)-C(3)	122.0(9)
		As-C(2)-C(4)	121.3(9)
		As-O(1)-O(2')	111.5(4)
		As-O(2)-O(1')	128.7(4)

Table 4**Selected dihedral angles for divinylarsinic acid (3)**

Atom 1	Atom 2	Atom 3	Atom 4	Angle (deg)
C(4)	C(2)	As	O(2)	12.2
C(3)	C(1)	As	O(2)	-5.2
C(4)	C(2)	As	O(1)	133.8
C(3)	C(1)	As	O(1)	-124.6

Table 5

300 MHz ^1H NMR Data forChemical Shifts in ppm and Coupling Constants in Hz, in CDCl_3 unless indicated otherwise.

Compound	H_a	H_b	H_c	$J_{a,b}$	$J_{a,c}$	$J_{b,c}$
1	6.58	5.92	5.66	11.4	18.6	1.4
2	6.75	5.96	5.77	11.4	18.6	1.6
3 ^a	6.51	6.35	6.25	11.4	18.6	~0
6	6.95	6.00	5.89	11.1	18.6	~0

a) in D_2O

LIST OF FIGURES:

Figure 1: Dimeric structure found in di(*t*-butyl)phosphinic acid and all three previously reported arsinic acids, other than the diphenyl derivative.

Figure 2: Stereoscopic projection of the unit cell and contents for divinyl arsinic acid (3).

Figure 3: An ORTEP representation of the solid state structure of divinyl arsinic acid (3), with thermal ellipsoids drawn at the 70% probability level, and hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity of viewing the presentation.

Fig. 1. Dimeric structure found in di(*t*-butyl)phosphinic acid and all three previously reported arsinic acids, other than the diphenyl derivative.

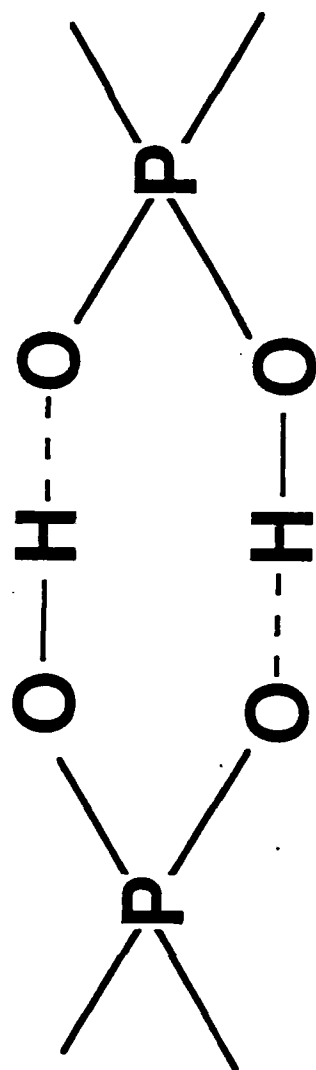


Fig. 2. Stereoscopic projection of the unit cell and contents for divinyl arsinic acid (3).

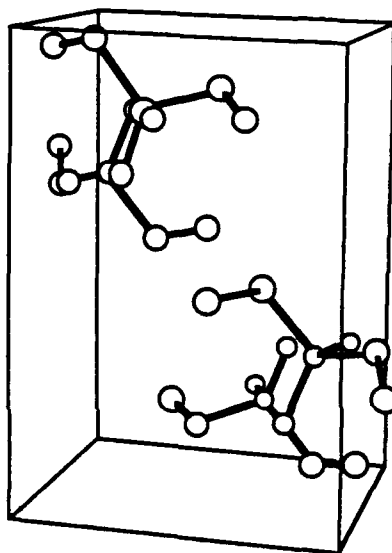
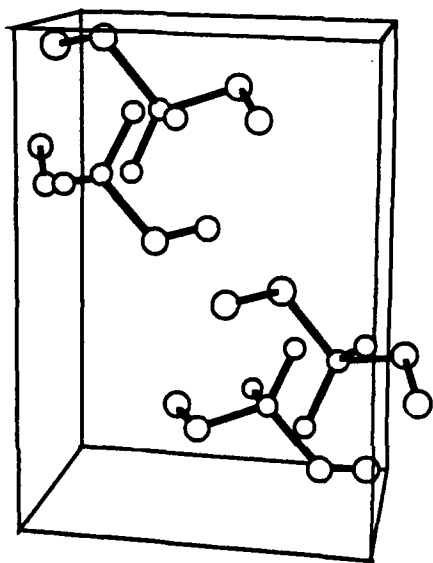


Fig. 3. An ORTEP representation of the solid state structure of divinyl arsinic acid (**3**), with thermal ellipsoids drawn at the 70% probability level, and hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity of viewing the presentation.

